

## ***PRESS ALERT***

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### **Victoria Bradshaw, Secretary, Labor and Workforce Development Agency, to Address State Higher Education Commission on the Role of Postsecondary Education in Meeting Workforce Needs**

*September 1, 2005* — Sacramento — Victoria Bradshaw, Secretary of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, will address the September 7, 2005 California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC) meeting on the critical issue of higher education's role in maintaining California's competitive edge. Discussion will focus on the role of CPEC and the State's colleges and universities in meeting the need for a highly skilled workforce that matches the needs of an evolving, global economy.

Commissioners will also discuss the intersection between education and the workforce from a historical perspective as they consider the development of an analytical model for comparing the production of degrees and certificates with the demand for jobs in California. "Higher education and the economy have never relied more closely on one another," commented Chair Howard Welinsky. "Remaining competitive in the "knowledge-based" global economy demands the creation and maintenance of an agile, efficient world-class education system."

Also on the agenda will be the University Eligibility Study for the Class of 2001. This study estimates the proportion of public high school graduates who met the admission requirements for UC and CSU in 2001. The Commission will discuss the changes in the eligibility pools for graduates between 2001 and 2003. This report can be found at

[http://www.cpec.ca.gov/Agendas/Agenda0509/Tab\\_06.pdf](http://www.cpec.ca.gov/Agendas/Agenda0509/Tab_06.pdf)

In addition, the Commission is expected to approve establishment of a new community college education center in the North Natomas area of Sacramento. Says the Commission's Executive Director, Murray J. Haberman, "The Los Rios Community College District is expected to increase by 40,000 additional students by the year 2015. This center represents part of an innovative approach to meeting educational and employment needs of the greater Sacramento Metro area." This report can be found at

[http://www.cpec.ca.gov/Agendas/Agenda0509/Tab\\_07.pdf](http://www.cpec.ca.gov/Agendas/Agenda0509/Tab_07.pdf)

The California Postsecondary Education Commission advises the Governor and Legislature on higher education policy and fiscal issues. Its primary focus is to ensure that the state's educational resources are used effectively to provide Californians with postsecondary education opportunities. More information about the Commission and its work can be found at its website at [www.cpec.ca.gov](http://www.cpec.ca.gov).